

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace Figures 5a, 5c, and 5d with the attached replacement figures.

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 are pending. By this Amendment, Figures 5A, 5C and 5D, the specification, the abstract and claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 22, 31 and 32 are amended; and claim 34 is added. Reconsideration and allowance in view of the above amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended by Examiner Tawfik to Applicants' representative during the interview conducted March 15, 2007. A summary of the interview is incorporated into the remarks below.

The specification was objected to. The specification has been amended to obviate the objection and to include the priority claim. The specification has also been amended to address the drawing objection to Figures 5C and 6B. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification are respectfully requested.

The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.84(p)(4). Figures 5A, 5C and 5D have been amended to refer to the longitudinal seam with reference number "35". As discussed above, the specification has been amended accordingly.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1-7 have been amended to obviate the rejection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over *Cromwell* (U.S. Patent No. 5,533,666) and claims 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over *Cromwell*. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites a method of folding a bottom of a package. The package comprises a sleeve of packaging material with a transversal seal at an end of a bottom forming portion of the package. The bottom forming portion has the shape of a fin. The method comprises folding a middle portion of the fin such that primary flaps are created at the sealed transversal ends of the fin, breaking corners on the folded fin in boundary regions between the primary flaps and an edge between the bottom forming portion of the sleeve and the rest of the sleeve, such that secondary flaps are folded in between the primary flaps and a remaining part of the fin. The secondary flaps on each side of each primary flap thereby are folded essentially towards each other. The method further comprises folding the primary flaps towards each other and pressing the primary flaps toward the folded middle portion of the fin.

As discussed during the interview, *Cromwell* does not disclose or suggest that the bottom 36 of the octagonal box has a bottom forming portion shaped like a fin that includes a transversal seal. As also discussed during the interview, *Cromwell* does not disclose or suggest folding the bottom 36 of the box so that the eight flaps 70-84 are created at a sealed transversal end of a fin. *Cromwell et al.* disclose that the weight of the contents holds the bottom closure flaps closed against a supporting pallet which is used to transport the loaded box to its desired destination. *Cromwell* further discloses that suitable conventional means may be used to fix the closure flaps in a closed position if deemed desirable for a particular application. See column 9, lines 12-22. *Cromwell* thus discloses fixing the closure flaps 70-84 after the bottom 36 of the box is folded and does not disclose or suggest folding a middle portion of a fin such that primary flaps are created at sealed transversal ends of the fin.

Claims 2-7 recite additional features of the invention and are allowable for the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-7 over *Cromwell* are respectfully requested.

Withdrawn claim 8 recites a device for folding a bottom of a package. The package comprises a sleeve of packaging material with a transversal seal at an end of a bottom forming portion of the package. The bottom forming package has the shape of a fin. The device comprises a first folding unit for folding a middle portion of the fin such that primary flaps are created at the sealed transversal ends of the film. The device further comprises a breaking unit for breaking corners on the folded fin in boundary regions between the primary flaps and an edge between the bottom forming portion of the sleeve and the rest of the sleeve. The secondary flaps are folded in between the primary flaps and a remaining part of the fin and the secondary flaps on each side of each primary flap are folded essentially towards each other. The device further comprises a second folding unit for folding the primary flaps against each other and a pressing unit for pressing the primary flaps toward the folded middle portion of the fin.

Withdrawn claim 32 recites a package comprising a sleeve of packaging material with a longitudinal seal and a transversal seal at an end of a bottom forming portion of the package. The bottom forming portion has the shape of a fin and the bottom is folded such that a middle portion of the fin is folded towards the bottom forming portion of the sleeve. The sealed transversal end portions of the fin are folded towards each other and the folded middle portion of the fin. In regions between sides of the sealed transversal end portions of the fin and edges between the bottom

forming portion of the sleeve and the rest of the sleeve, folds are provided on each side of each transversal end portion and folded towards the fin and the bottom forming portion of the sleeve, in between the sealed transversal end portions and the bottom forming portion of the sleeve, such that the bottom has an essentially octagonal shape.

As discussed above, *Cromwell* does not disclose or suggest the features recited in claims 8 and 32. It is respectfully submitted that each of claims 1, 8 and 32 includes a special technical feature which defines a contribution over the prior art, and thus claims 1-34 include unity of invention.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement and rejoinder and allowance of claims 8-34 are respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims are allowable and that the entire application is in condition for allowance.


Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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